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""Dust Mite, Cockroach, and Other Arthropoda""""MEDICAL TESTING METHODS""; ""Skin Tests""; ""Pulmonary Function Tests""; ""ASSESSING EXPOSURE AND RISK""; ""ENGINEERING CONTROL STRATEGIES""; ""THE ROLE OF EDUCATION""; ""Patients""; ""Health Care Providers""; ""Engineers, Architects, and Building Maintenance Personnel""; ""Research Agenda""; ""MAGNITUDE AND DIMENSIONS OF SENSITIZATION AND DISEASE""; ""AGENTS, SOURCES, SOURCE CONTROLS, AND DISEASES""; ""Dust Mite, Cockroach, and Other Arthropoda""; ""Mammals and Birds""; ""Microbial Allergens""; ""Chemicals""; ""PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS""; ""MECHANISMS OF IMMUNE FUNCTION""""MEDICAL TESTING METHODS""; ""Medical History and Diagnosis""; ""Skin Tests""; ""In Vitro Tests""; ""Pulmonary Function""; ""ASSESSING EXPOSURE AND RISK""; ""ENGINEERING CONTROL STRATEGIES""; ""1 Introduction""; ""ALLERGENS AND THE INDOOR ENVIRONMENT""; ""CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS""; ""SCOPE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT""; ""2 Magnitude and Dimensions of Sensitization and Disease Caused by Indoor Allergens""; ""IMMUNOLOGIC SENSITIZATION""; ""Risk Factors""; ""Other Types of Sensitization""; ""DISEASES""; ""Common Diseases Clearly Related to Allergy and IgE Antibody""""ALLERGIC ASTHMA""; ""Definition and Diagnosis""; ""Attributable Fraction""; ""Prevalence""; ""Incidence""; ""Impact""; ""Trends Over Time""; ""Risk factors""; ""Demographics""; ""ALLERGIC RHINITIS""; ""Prevalence and Incidence""; ""Risk Factors""; ""ECZEMA""; ""Atopic Dermatitis""; ""Allergic Contact Dermatitis""; ""Less Common Diseases Clearly Related to Allergy""; ""ALLERGIC BRONCHOPULMONARY ASPERGILLOSIS""; ""Prevalence""; ""HYPERSENSITIVITY PNEUMONITIS""; ""Prevalence""; ""Disease Severity""; ""Risk Factors""; ""HUMIDIFIER FEVER""""Prevalence""; ""Common Diseases Possibly Related to Allergy""; ""SINUSITIS""; ""Prevalence and Severity""; ""Risk Factors""; ""CHRONIC BRONCHITIS""; ""SICK BUILDING SYNDROME""; ""SPECIFIC BUILDING-RELATED ILLNESS""; ""ACUTE RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES""; ""CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS""; ""3 Agents, Sources, Source Controls, and Diseases""; ""DUST MITE, COCKROACH, AND OTHER ARTHROPODA""; ""Dust Mites as a Source of Indoor Allergens""; ""DUST MITE ALLERGENS""; ""COMMERCIALLY AVAILABLE ALLERGEN EXTRACTS""; ""Insects as a Source of Indoor Allergens""; ""DOMESTIC COCKROACHES""; ""Measuring Exposure to House Dust Allergens""

Sommario/riassunto

More than 50 million Americans, one out of five, suffer from hay fever, asthma, and other allergic diseases. Many of these conditions are caused by exposure to allergens in indoor environments such as the house, work, and school--where we spend as much as 98 percent of our time. Developed by medical, public health, and engineering professionals working together, this unique volume summarizes what is known about indoor allergens, how they affect human health, the magnitude of their effect on various populations, and how they can be controlled. The book addresses controversies, recommends research directions, and suggests how to assist and educate allergy patients, as well as professionals. Indoor Allergens presents a wealth of information about common indoor allergens and their varying effects, from significant hay fever to life-threatening asthma. The volume discusses sources of allergens, from fungi and dust mites to allergenic chemicals, plants, and animals, and examines practical measures for their control. Indoor Allergens discusses how the human airway and immune system respond to inhaled allergens and assesses patient testing methods, covering the importance of the patient's medical history and outlining procedures and approaches to interpretation for skin tests, in vitro

diagnostic tests, and tests of patients' pulmonary function. This comprehensive and practical volume will be important to allergists and other health care providers; public health professionals; specialists in building design, construction, and maintenance; faculty and students in public health; and interested allergy patients.